

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, November 5, 2014, 3 p.m.**  
**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Abdel-Motaleb, Arado, Baker, Ballantine (for McCord), Block, Bond, Brubaker, Chakraborty, Chavez, Chmaissem, Cordell (for Dawson), Deng, Doederlein, Domke, Donovan, Feurer, Frascello, Fredericks, A. Freeman, L. Freeman, Giese, Haliczzer, Hathaway, Hedin, Henning, Holly, Jaffee, Kamholz, Khoury, Lee, Lenczewski, Long, Macdonald, A. Martin, S. Martin, Mason, Mogren, Monteiro, Moraga (for Chen), Moremen, Munroe, Pitney, Plonczynski, Riley, Sagarin, Schwartz-Bechet, Shannon, Stoddard (for Naples), Ueckert, Vohra

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Arriola (sabbatical), Campbell, Chen, Dawson, Farrell (fellowship), Liu, McCord, Mohabbat, Naples, Neal, Perea, Roberson, Schoenbachler, Starofsky,

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Birberick, Bryan, Cheney, Coronado, Coryell, Falkoff, Hardy, Klaper, Michael (for Weldy), Stafstrom, Summers

**OTHERS ABSENT:** Armstrong, Kaplan, Suttentfield, Weldy

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m.

**II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**J. Frascello** moved to adopt the agenda. **D. Domke** Second. Motion passed.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2014 MEETING**

**D. Haliczzer** moved to approve minutes. **C. Doederlein** Second. Motion passed.

**IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**D. Baker** provided updates on various searches:

- Vice president for advancement to replace Mike Malone's position
- Vice president for administration and finance. Lisa Freeman is chairing this search.
- John Cheney has been named the interim to oversee facilities.

The President and Executive Vice President and Provost Lisa Freeman have received a draft report from the Diversity Task Force. This task force examined best practices around the country and has offered excellent recommendations. This report as well as the report from the Violence Against Women Task Force will be available soon.

The President and Executive Vice President and Provost attended the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities Conference. The Violence Against Women Act and how universities are addressing this was discussed. It is clear NIU is ahead of almost all the other schools in the country.

NIU PLUS – Progressive Learning in Undergraduate Studies – [presentation](#) – Pages 3-45

**A. Birberick** and **J. Stafstrom** provided a brief update on the PLUS program.

PLUS is a very large, comprehensive program. It incorporates changes to the current general education program as well as changes to NIU's baccalaureate requirements. One of the concerns that has been expressed on multiple occasions and in multiple forms is the implementation process. There will be some changes that will occur and be recorded in the 2015/2016 undergraduate catalog, and then there will be more that will take place in the 2016/2017 catalog. It's going to be a process that unfolds over a period of time. Pathways will need to be initiated and an RFP that will provide funding for faculty to work with one another and to create the pathways is forthcoming.

**L. Freeman** presented an update on the academic and administrative program prioritizing process. The steering committee has met once. A website with FAQs is being created and information will come forward as it emerges. The need for a data support team has been identified. One of the first components is to decide on what type of criteria are important to us at NIU and reflects our culture, our values, our mission, and our plans. And the process for choosing those criteria and weighting them will be a very inclusive one. This process for creating the criteria has not been identified, but it will be a very faculty-driven process and very respectful of shared governance. Criteria will be circulated, feedback collected through a formalized and inclusive process and the faculty and staff committees of Resource, Space and Budget and Academic Planning Council will have the ultimate task of assembling the feedback and recommending criteria to the president.

**J. Cheney** discussed the athletic facilities master plan. The plan totaled an estimated \$138,000,000. The intent is to privately fundraise and the rest would be based off revenue generation because the expansion in seating and the premium seating areas will generate income. The timeline is really not set; it will be based on how the campaign goes.

## **V. CONSENT AGENDA**

## **VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong; Paul Stoddard, alternate – [report](#) – Page 46

**P. Stoddard** identified the main issues discussed at the meeting: 1) updates from the provost and the president of Governor's State; 2) academic freedom and shared governance issues resulting from the Salatia case at University of Illinois Champaign Urbana; and 3) Chicago State University's issues with the administration and their governing board that has now dismissed the Faculty Senate.

The FAC to IBHE will create a statement reaffirming academic freedom and shared governance.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee –

Dan Gebo and William Pitney – no report

- C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Jay Monteiro and Rebecca Shortridge – no report
- D. BOT Legislative Affairs, Research and Innovation Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Dan Gebo – no report
- E. BOT Compliance, Audit, Risk Management and Legal Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Greg Waas – no report
- F. BOT – William Pitney and Greg Waas – no report
- G. Academic Policy Committee – Virginia Naples, Chair – no report
- H. Resources, Space and Budget Committee – Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb, Chair – [report](#) – Page 47

**I. Abdel-Motaleb** provided an update from RSB: 1) the committee is examining principles from the Dickeson prioritization text; 2) a workshop is planned for November to learn about the NIU budget process.

- I. Rules and Governance Committee – Jana Brubaker, Chair – no report
- J. University Affairs Committee – Greg Long, Chair – no report
- K. Student Association – Joe Frascello, President – report

**J. Frascello** articulated a student concern regarding the cost for students to have their organizations' events held at the student center. Strong student organizations with active members are attractive to current and potential students. Although many student organizations are on campus, only a few are thriving. This may be because organizations are not able to utilize their campus in an effective way to attract new members. Or perhaps it is because many student organizations are prevented from hosting events on campus, particularly the Holmes Student Center, because the food costs are too expensive for them to afford. This semester alone \$12,000 has been allocated to student groups, the majority goes toward food costs to host organizational events. This does not appear to be an effective use of student funds. The Student Association hopes that the university can find a way to make events more affordable for student organizations.

The S.A. hosted a round table discussion at Neptune Central for the “It’s on Us” campaign. Representatives from all over the university attended. The campaign’s goals are to recognize that non-consensual sex is sexual assault; to identify situations in which sexual assault might occur; to intervene in situations where consent has not or cannot be given; and to create an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported. The week of action is November 17 through the 21.

**B. Donovan**, the director of governmental affairs, presented the students perspective on the

Enterprise Zone from DeKalb City Council last week. One particular part of this that emerged was the dredging the east lagoon to make the Kishwaukee River not flood the John Street area so it would be more attractive to businesses. The S.A. stated publically here at University Council that the Student Association is not necessarily opposed to alteration of the lagoon, but any Student Association support of alteration would require a very compelling argument. Furthermore, the S.A. believes that, if any alteration occurs, it must not compromise the integrity and intent of the lagoon because this area is vital to student, university, and community activities.

L. Operating Staff Council – Jay Monteiro, President – [report](#) – Pages 48-49

**J. Monteiro** reported that the Operating Staff Council newsletter will, beginning in February, go digital. At the last OSC meeting, Matthew Parks and Sabrina Hammond from ITS presented a proposal of the new cellar service stipend policy.

M. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Deborah Haliczzer, President – [report](#) – Page 50

**D. Haliczzer** highlight that the SPS deadline for not just NIU’s four presidential awards but five additional awards is December 1. The ethics training deadline is November 12, 5 p.m.

N. University Benefits Committee – Brian Mackie, FS Liaison to UBC – [report](#) – Page 51

O. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Mary Beth Henning, Chair – no report

## **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Committee on Multicultural Curriculum Transformation – Proposed revisions to committee composition, [NIU Bylaws Article 15.9.1](#) – **SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM** – Page 52

A motion to approve this committee composition change was received and seconded from the floor. Discussion: W. Pitney clarified the changes in composition. The following vote was received:

Yes – 37  
No – 2  
Abstain – 1

The motion did not pass as 39 votes were necessary for this bylaw change.

B. University Assessment Panel – Proposed revisions to committee composition, [NIU Bylaws Article 15.8.1](#) – **SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM** – Page 53

**W. Pitney** suggested that the vote on item B be postponed until the next meeting. A motion to postpone and a second were received from the floor. No questions, comments, or discussion ensued. Motion passed.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

## **IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

## **X. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. [Annual Report](#), Athletic Board
- B. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- C. [Minutes](#), Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
- D. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- E. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- F. [Minutes](#), Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education
- G. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
- H. [Minutes](#), Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
- I. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- J. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
- K. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- L. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- M. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- N. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- O. [Minutes](#), Undergraduate Coordinating Council
- P. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- Q. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn and a second were received from the floor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.